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THE MOST REV.

ARCHBISHOP OF

[From the Newcastle Union Advocate, Feb. 21, 1883.]

When in Halifax, assisting at the consecration of the new Archbishop, Bishop Rogers intimated that being about to be absent on his visit to Rome in the Spring and early Summer, when His Grace would probably be visiting the various other Suffragan Bishops of this Ecclesiastical Province, he would be happy, if such could be made convenient, to receive His Grace's visit at Chatham before his (the Bishop of Chatham's) departure—to which the Archbishop kindly consented, mentioning that after the first three or four weeks, necessary for him to settle down in his new home, he would come up to Chatham as requested.

Accordingly, when the time came, His Grace intimated by telegram the period of his visit, and arrived at Chatham accompanied by his Secretary Rev. E. F. Murphy, by the express train at 5 a. m. on Tuesday, Feby. 13. After reposing a few hours the Archbishop celebrated Mass at 10 o'clock in the Pro-Cathedral, where a large number of the Catholic people of Chatham were assembled to receive his blessing and to offer him their respectful and affectionate greetings. Soon after Mass these were presented individually to His Grace by the Bishop in the large parlour of the Episcopal Residence, whither they had come from the church for that purpose—the school boys from the side chapel being the first to enjoy that favor.

On account of the cold and blustery winds usual in mid-winter, no out-door decorations such as arches &c., could be attempted; but the usual inside decorations were elaborate—the interior of the church, the corridors, stairways, dining-room and parlor of the Bishop's residence, having been festooned with evergreens, flags &c., &c., very tastefully.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the guests specially invited to meet the Archbishop at luncheon, began to arrive, and were presented individually to His Grace by the Bishop in the large parlor.

After some little time passed in conversation, interchanging salutations, &c., all proceeded to the temporary dining

office it was to place the guests, the representatives of the Press having been placed in excellent positions for hearing and seeing all that passed.

When justice had been done to the viands, His Lordship the Bishop of Chatham arose and said that although the custom of toasting was going out of use, he had sought and obtained permission from His Grace to propose, without violating etiquette, one toast. (Just at this instant, while the waiters were handling the champagne, the cork of one bottle flew out making quite a loud report—which little incident, trifling in itself, yet occurring at the moment it did, set the whole company in an uproar of laughter and agreeable merriment which lasted for some time. When calm was restored the Bishop continued.)

"We had high authority for giving 'Honor to whom honor is due,' and the presence here to-day of so many honorable and distinguished guests, representing in their aggregate all the learned Professions, the Government, the Legislature, the Clerical, Legal and Medical Professions, the Mercantile, Banking, Mechanical, Farming and other Industries, and of different Religious Denominations and from different sections of the Diocese—Bathurst, Richibucto, Newcastle, Chatham, Nelson, and the settlements up and down the River, the presence, I say of all these distinguished and honorable gentlemen to do honor to merit, both personal and official, obliges me, as it were, to give expression to their sentiments in proposing this toast. Some of the gentlemen here present remember our illustrious guest, when not many years ago, he was a boy, a student at St. Dunstan's College, P. E. I. When it became the duty of the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province, to recommend names from which our Holy Father, the Pope, might select one, if he so judged it best, to appoint to the Vacant Metropolitan See of Halifax, the name of our Most Reverend Guest was placed foremost on the list. Subsequently when the Holy Father selected and appointed Dr. O'Brien to the vacant See, we were all delighted. And why? Because in

awaited the promised text, but none came. Finally, on Sunday, as he about to ascend the pulpit, a paper put into his hands containing, as he supposed, the text; but on opening found it blank. There was nothing in it! For some moments he was flustered, but reflecting that out of no God created the universe, he thought "Creation" would form a good text, and preached on that, what turned to be an admirable discourse.

"Now, I feel the same embarrassment which that clergyman must have felt at the beginning when about to preach—nothing. His Lordship the Bishop of Chatham has given me a text—myself—which is, I feel, equal to nothing. The Bishop referred to the time when I was a little boy at St. Dunstan's College. Well I remember that time, and not such a little boy either. The school boys made fun of us because we played marbles, and in a spirit of contradiction we bigger boys formed ourselves a marble club from which we excluded those little fellows. I remember when much smaller, the idea I formed of Miramichi—what a grand place it was, and that if I could only visit it, I would be a great fellow I would be. Well, I am now at length come to visit it, and cover, from all of you gentlemen, the same great fellow! (Laughter and applause.)

"But, gentlemen, pleasantries are not what we must gratefully thank His Lordship for all of you present for the kind and pleasant manner in which you have been pleased to drink my health. I accept this demonstration not as referring to me personally so much as a mark of respect for the office to which I have been promoted. This manifestation of good will and kind feeling by such a large representative company, all of whom have come to meet and honor me, as the Pope assured me, is a favor which I highly appreciate, and for which I beg again to express my warmest thanks.

"But before sitting down I must ask your permission to propose another toast. The good will and kindly feelings which distinguish the people of Miramichi and the surrounding parts, of the present numerous company, such evidence, is a source of honor and joy for the good Bishop of Chatham whose labors in the cause of religion, patriotism, morality, education and charity are esteemed not only by his flock, but by all his kind and well-meaning neighbors, of what creed soever. I do not wish to express indifference in matters of religious belief. No, far from it. Each one should faithfully adhere to his conscientious convictions. But you

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REV. DR. O'BRIEN,

BISHOP OF HALIFAX.

waited the promised text, but no text came. Finally, on Sunday, as he was about to ascend the pulpit, a paper was put into his hands containing, as he supposed, the text; but on opening it he found it blank. There was nothing on it! For some moments he was bewildered, but reflecting that out of nothing God created the universe, he thought "Creation" would form a good theme, and preached on that, what turned out to be an admirable discourse.

"Now, I feel the same embarrassment which that clergyman must have felt in the beginning when about to preach from nothing. His Lordship the Bishop of Chatham has given me a text—my own self—which is, I feel, equal to nothing. The Bishop referred to the time when I was a little boy at St. Dunstan's College. Well I remember that time, and I was not such a little boy either. The smaller boys made fun of us because we played marbles, and in a spirit of contradiction the bigger boys formed ourselves into a marble club from which we excluded those little fellows. I remember also, when much smaller, the idea I formed of Miramichi—what a grand place it must be, and that if I could only visit it what a great fellow I would be. Well, I have now at length come to visit it, and I discover, from all of you gentlemen, that I am a great fellow! (Laughter and applause.)

"But, gentlemen, pleasant asides, I must gratefully thank His Lordship and all of you present for the kind and warm manner in which you have been pleased to drink my health. I accept this demonstration not as referring to myself personally so much as a mark of respect for the office to which I have been promoted. This manifestation of good will and kind feeling by such a large representative company, all of whom have come to meet and honor me, as the Bishop assured me, is a favor which I certainly highly appreciate, and for which I beg again to express my warmest thanks! "But before sitting down I must ask your permission to propose another toast. The good will and kindly feeling which distinguish the people of Miramichi and the surrounding parts, of which the present numerous company gives such evidence, is a source of honor and glory for the good Bishop of Chatham, whose labors in the cause of religion, patriotism, morality, education and charity are esteemed not only by his own flock, but by all his kind and worthy neighbors, of what creed soever. I do not wish to express indifference in matters of religious belief. No, far from it. Each one should faithfully adhere to his conscientious convictions. But while

happy and playful allusion of the Judge refers to the work, "PHILOSOPHY OF THE BIBLE," written by His Grace the Archbishop, Judge Wilkinson's eloquent and witty address was warmly applauded. The hour fixed for His Grace to receive visitors having arrived, the company arose and returned to the parlor, where the Archbishop received the visitors who called on him.

(From the Chatham World.)

Before Benediction, in the evening, the following address was presented to the Archbishop, Mr. John Knight reading it in a clear voice:—

ADDRESS.

TO HIS GRACE THE MOST REVEREND CORNELIUS O'BRIEN, ARCHBISHOP OF HALIFAX, K. H. & C.

May it please Your Grace:

On behalf of the clergy and laity of the Diocese of Chatham we tender you a hearty welcome on this your first visit in our midst. We offer you our most cordial and respectful congratulations on your elevation to the high dignity of Archbishop of the Metropolitan See of Halifax.

We are bound to the Archdiocese of Halifax by many ties besides our relations as suffragan to that Metropolitan See, of which we may name the selection of our venerated Bishop who was ordained Priest by your sainted predecessor the first Archbishop of Halifax, and consecrated Bishop in the Cathedral of your own native Diocese in company with its beloved Bishop, Mgr. McIntyre, by your illustrious predecessor, Archbishop Connolly.

In common with our fellow Catholics of the Maritime Provinces we felt overjoyed when we learned that you had been selected by our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII, to succeed the late lamented Archbishop Hannan as our Metropolitan.

Though well known to some amongst us, yet personally unknown to others, all had heard of you as a zealous priest, a deep student and learned author, and we hailed your appointment as a high compliment to the clergy and laity of our Ecclesiastical Province.

Thanking your Grace most gratefully for affording us at this severe season, and so soon after your consecration, this occasion to greet you, tendering you a "Cord mille faillie," and praying that you may be long spared to honor and grace the responsible position to which you have been called,—we beg your Grace's benediction.

THOS. J. BAYNON, Priest, } Committee
JOHN McDONALD, M. P., } to
THOMAS CRIMMEN, } prepare
JAMES W. TOWNLEY, } address.
Chatham, N. B., Feb. 13, 1883.

His Grace said he did not at all take the flattering address just read as a compliment to him personally, but as a mark of respect to him as chief pastor of the

Diocese, which was tastefully festooned and decorated, and in which the pupils—of the various grades—were all assembled.

A march of welcome was performed by the young musicians as the Archbishop entered; after this one of the little girls, Annie Carrol, stepped forward and read, admirably well, the following

ADDRESS.

TO HIS GRACE THE MOST REVEREND CORNELIUS O'BRIEN, D. D., ARCHBISHOP OF HALIFAX, &c., &c.:

May it please Your Grace—

Welcome! a thousand times welcome to the Hotel Dieu of St. Joseph at Chatham!

Though but little children, scholars of St. Michael's Female Academy, which is directed by the Sisters of the Hotel Dieu, we come to Your Grace with confidence and joy, knowing that you are the representative of Him who "went about doing good" and who rebuked those who would prevent "little children" from approaching Him! We imagine we read His words in your benignant smile: "Suffer little children to come unto me," and behold we do come to bid you welcome as our new Metropolitan, and to ask your Pontifical Benediction upon us and our Teachers, upon our good Nuns and their Institute, and upon our dear Parents, Pastors, Benefactors and Friends!

This being Your Grace's first visit as Archbishop to this one of your suffragan Dioceses, we wish to tell you briefly the history of this Hotel Dieu, which our beloved Bishop introduced into his Diocese in 1868, and which he has ever fondly and devotedly cherished.

It is a foundation from the Hotel Dieu of Montreal,—the Sisters Hospitaliers of St. Joseph, originally founded at Laflèche, in France, from which a Foundation came to do hospital work at Montreal, A. D., 1659, in the first settlement of that city.

An appeal was made to the Community of Montreal from the Diocese of Chatham for Sisters to nurse the poor lepers in the Lazaretto at Tracadie. In response our Sisters came to care for the afflicted in the Government Hospital for Lepers in Tracadie, and to direct our Hospital for the casual sick of all classes and creeds at Chatham, and an Academy for the education of girls. In this Hospital, which receives no aid from Government, 2,400 sick patients have been nursed for a longer or shorter period of time according to their respective cases, the regular visiting physicians being Doctors John and Joseph Benson.

Some of those patients have paid the charges for board and nursing, while others were unable to pay the moderate fees asked from those who can pay. Thus the work of the good Samaritan has been lovingly and faithfully done in the Hotel Dieu of Chatham.

Also the work of female education has been assiduously prosecuted, the daily average attendance of pupils being 100, the total number of scholars who have passed through the classes since the Sisters assumed charge of our Academy in 1871 being about 1000 day scholars and 60 boarding pupils.

Such, in brief, is the history of our Insti-

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Pope, might select one, if he so judged it best, to appoint to the Vacant Metropolitan See of Halifax, the name of our Most Reverend Guest was placed foremost on the list. Subsequently when the Holy Father selected and appointed Dr. O'Brien to the vacant See, we were all delighted. And why? Because in that nomination we recognized the finger of God, the hand of Providence, the just recognition of merit, the reward of humility, amiability, industry, earnest piety, and intellectual success, which had distinguished the young but assiduous student all through his course, at St. Dunstan's in P. E. Island, at the Propaganda College in Rome, and as a Priest on the mission who still cherished his favorite studies, and who reflected the light of his own mind on his fellow men, in his literary and philosophic publications. When our own opinion and experience of the man became thus confirmed by the highest official authority in our church, we felt humbly grateful and confident. It is to give expression to that pleasure of ours, to congratulate him, and to congratulate all the inhabitants of these Maritime Civil Provinces which compose the Ecclesiastical Province of Halifax, that we unite to-day. For not only to the religious man, the clergyman, or layman, who will be subject to his authority, is such an appointment a matter of interest, but to every citizen no matter what may be his creed or politics. For religion is the basis of civil society.—religion by inspiring men with the fear and love of God, will make them good and just to one another, and will thus diminish the necessity for penal laws—for officers of justice to punish the wicked. Religion in this way supplies the place of constables, by diminishing the necessity for them, on account of the just and upright sentiments and acts of those whom it inspires and influences. Hence not only members of our church but all wise statesmen and others having wisdom and interest in the peace and happiness of society, feel pleased when men whom they know to be worthy, are appointed to offices of such high trust and responsibility. It is moreover an encouragement to our youth—an incentive to them to be industrious and faithful to their studies and duties—seeing that the hope of reward for merit is not vain. I propose then my toast, 'Health, long life, and successful administration of his office, to our New Metropolitan, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Brien, Archbishop of Halifax.' *Ad multos annos!*"

The toast was received with prolonged applause.

When His Grace Archbishop O'Brien stood up to reply the applause was again renewed and lasted for some time.

"I must acknowledge to some embarrassment in rising to reply to this toast. I am not accustomed to after dinner speeches,—indeed, I may say I never made one before. I feel somewhat like the clergyman of whom I heard an anecdote. He had been directed by his Bishop to prepare to preach on the following Sunday from a text which the Bishop was to furnish him. From day to day he

Bishop Rogers responded briefly cordially, thanking His Grace and all present. He said that in regard to the improvements and the progress made since he was appointed to administer the Diocese of Chatham he felt grateful to God, to his clergy and people, and to his neighbors and friends who in every way aided in the work. But what had been done was accomplished by his agents, all of whom unitedly, and one for his own share, claimed proportionate merit. As to himself he was the one in office; any other in the office would have done as well, if not better. Though he did not intend to do this to-day, yet the words of His Grace seemed to call for the explanation that to-morrow would be the anniversary of our fire and the first anniversary of our residing in the rebuilt Episcopal residence, we purpose celebrating a Communion Mass of Thanksgiving to God for our re-establishment in our new buildings, and also to beg God's blessing and reward for all who helped us in any whatsoever, whether by money, labor, material, sympathy or otherwise, to build. To-morrow being Wednesday, Ember Week, is a fast-day, and a day of particular devotion and prayer in behalf of the Pastors of the Church. But as in a particular manner, while observing the laws of the Church in regard to the fast, we shall enjoy a double spiritual feast,—first, because of said anniversary, and secondly, because of the presence of our Spiritual Father and Provider, Chief, His Grace the Archbishop. Renewing his grateful thanks to all present His Lordship resumed his address amid loud applause.

His Honor Judge Wilkinson arose in the name of all the Laity, expressed his thanks to the Bishop of Chatham for the opportunity thus afforded them of coming to meet and pay their respects to His Grace the Archbishop of Hartford. His Grace, he said, had, like the man alluded to, succeeded in making an admirable address, notwithstanding reluctance to speak on the text — "I, I, I." But he (Judge Wilkinson) was the author who wrote an excellent book, basing his reasoning on the text, "I, I, I." "Cegito," "I think, am conscious of my own existence from this text, or first principle completed an admirable work. [This

those labors in the cause of religion, riotism, morality, education and city are esteemed not only by his own rank, but by all his kind and worthy neighbors, of what creed soever. I do wish to express indifference in matters of religious belief. No, far from it, each one should faithfully adhere to his conscientious convictions. But while living so, firmly and faithfully, he can live with his fellow-citizens in all civil, social and business matters; for in all these respects we are one. What interests one interests all, in everything which promotes the general welfare of the country and of society. What the good Bishop of Chatham has done to promote the welfare of all, both in Church and State, is well known to you all, gentlemen; therefore I propose his health which was received with hearty demonstrations of approval.

Bishop Rogers responded briefly but cordially, thanking His Grace and all present. He said that in regard to the improvements and the progress made since he was appointed to administer the new diocese of Chatham he felt grateful to God, to his clergy and people, and to all his neighbors and friends who in any way aided in the work. But whatever had been done was accomplished by many hands, all of whom unitedly, and each for his own share, claimed proportionate merit. As to himself he was only one in office; any other in the same office would have done as well, if not better. Though he did not intend to allude to this to-day, yet the words of His Grace seemed to call for the explanation that to-morrow would be the anniversary of our fire and the first anniversary that we are residing in the rebuilt Episcopal residence, we propose celebrating a solemn Mass of Thanksgiving to God for our re-establishment in our new buildings, and also to beg God's blessing and reward for all who helped us in any way whatsoever, whether by money, labor, material, sympathy or otherwise, to rebuild. To-morrow being Wednesday in Ember Week, is a fast-day, and a day of particular devotion and prayer in behalf of the Pastors of the Church. But for us in a particular manner, while observing the laws of the Church in regard to the fast, we shall enjoy a double spiritual feast, — first, because of said anniversary, — secondly, because of the presence of our Spiritual Father and Provincial Superior, His Grace the Archbishop. Again renewing his grateful thanks to all present His Lordship resumed his seat, amid loud applause.

His Honor Judge Wilkinson arose and in the name of all the Laity, expressed thanks to the Bishop of Chatham for the opportunity thus afforded them of coming to meet and pay their respects to His Grace the Archbishop of Halifax. His Grace, he said, had, like the clergyman alluded to, succeeded in making an admirable address, notwithstanding his reluctance to speak on the text — "MISE-SELF." But he (Judge Wilkinson) knew of an author who wrote an excellent book, basing his reasoning on the same text, "I," "Cognito," "I think," — "I am conscious of my own existence," and from this text, or first principle, completed an admirable work. [This very

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His Grace said he did not at all take the flattering address just read as a compliment to him personally, but as a mark of respect to him as chief pastor of the ecclesiastical province. The address referred to the intimate relations existing between the diocese of Chatham and the archdiocese of Halifax, and he was glad to know equally pleasant relations existed between the diocese of Chatham and the other dioceses of the ecclesiastical province. He referred to the appointment of the venerable Bishop of Chatham to the care of the new See, twenty-two years ago, and to the great progress made under his benignant rule. He (Bishop Rogers) had made light shine in the darkness, and had made the desert bloom. Priests had been multiplied, and churches on almost every hill top, pointing their spires heavenward, crowned with the cross, the emblem of man's salvation, showed the successful efforts of the venerated Bishop in the great cause of man's redemption. In this great work the Bishop was aided by his priests and by the people who, working together, had achieved a work which reminded them of the fairy tales they read in childhood. Everything was in darkness and gloom until the fairy appeared at whose magic touch the darkness became light and the gloom splendor. Your good Bishop was the fairy, at whose touch these fairy tales were achieved. The light of faith was unkindled, the splendor of Christianity was spread abroad, and the desert places were made to bear fruit spiritually. He trusted that the light of faith would never grow dim among them, but that they would love it more, and cherish it better in succeeding years. He thanked them cordially for their flattering address and hearty reception, and expressed his great pleasure at the evidences of Christian progress and good feeling he had seen during his stay in Chatham.

The Archbishop is visiting the Convent schools and hospital to-day, and leaves for St. John to-night.

On Wednesday His Grace said his mass in the Convent Chapel of the Hotel Dieu at 8 o'clock, and afterwards assisted at the Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving in the Pro-Cathedral, chanted by the Bishop of Chatham and assisting clergy, on occasion of the anniversary of the fire which had destroyed the church and adjacent buildings, five years ago, and from the effects of which they had now happily recovered.

In the afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, took place the reception at the Hotel Dieu. On entering, by the front door of the hospital, the visiting party were received by the Rev. Mother Sirols, Superioress, by Sister Connors, Assistant Superioress and Apothecary, by Sisters McGurty and St. Patrick, respectively charged with the male and female hospital wards, and by other Sisters, who conducted the Archbishop and those accompanying him through the various departments of the institution, until, ultimately, they entered the reception hall of the Acad-

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assiduously prosecuted, the daily average attendance of pupils being 100, the total number of scholars who have passed through the classes since the Sisters assumed charge of the Academy in 1871 being about 1000 day scholars and 60 boarding pupils.

Such, in brief, is the history of our Institution.

We know Your Grace approves of the study of "HISTORY" in schools, and while we read with interest the deeds of past generations, we must not overlook the heroic lives and deeds of God's faithful servants in our own times. Deeds done not through vain glory, but through humble obediences to the Gospel of Christ. It is because you are His faithful minister and come officially in his name that we tell to you as children to a father the nature of the work done in this house, in order to ask your blessing upon it and those engaged in doing it.

This day on which we have been so greatly honored by the visit of the Archbishop of our Ecclesiastical Province, will be a red-lettered day in the annals of our Institute, and, for us, the pupils now present, a day of happiest souvenir.

We humbly pray the dear, lovely Child Jesus to bless Your Grace, and we commend you and all your flock to the care of His Immaculate Mother, in whose praises you have written your sweet little book, "Mater Admirabilis."

St. Michael's Academy, directed by the Nuns of the Hotel Dieu of St. Joseph, Chatham, N. B., Feb. 14th, 1883.

This was followed by a very interesting little drama, intermingled with music, in all of which the various young performers acquitted themselves with perfect success. At the conclusion, His Grace thanked them for their cordial reception and most interesting address. He complimented both scholars and teachers, and expressed his gratification at the existence of such an institution in Chatham, and at the great good, both educational and charitable, effected by it. Then, after giving the children a holiday and imparting his benediction, he withdrew, leaving all delighted with his paternal amiability and gentle yet dignified simplicity.

In the evening, at 7.30 o'clock, a grand Te Deum, chanted by the choir of priests in the Pro-Cathedral, with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at which both the Archbishop of Halifax and the Bishop of Chatham were present, the Rev. E. F. Murphy, Secretary to His Grace, being celebrant, concluded the sacred offices of the day.

During the two or three hours while waiting for the time of departure for the train, a most agreeable solace with the clergy, students and some gentlemen of the laity was passed in the parlor of the Episcopal Residence, where music and song were intermingled with lively, pleasant conversation, in which the good Archbishop shared with all the genial, social good humor that had made him such a favorite with his fellow priests of P. E. Island. Towards midnight he took his leave in company with his worthy and accomplished Secretary, and was escorted to the station by a number of the rev. gentlemen, especially those who were his former friends at college, some of whom did not leave him till they saw him on board of the Intercolonial at Chatham Junction.